

Nebraska State Volunteer Firemen's Association

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A department devoted to the interests of the volunteer firemen of the state of Nebraska.

Edited by Lloyd C. Thomas, state publicity chairman.

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Departments are requested to forward names as fast as publicity man is appointed.

Sunday Fires a Aurora

The Aurora Republican of July 9 said:

The old superstition that fires go by threes was two-thirds vindicated about 9:30 Sunday evening when the department was called to the Catholic church to extinguish a blaze that had started from some cause unknown in the sacristy. It was burning merrily when discovered by John Moore, a tailor who rooms nearby. Mr. Moore hurriedly called the priest Father O'Boyle, from the paragonage next door and the two men succeeded in gaining control before the arrival of the department.

Vestments and books stored in the room were slightly damaged, but the principal loss was sustained on a fine \$400 altar which was practically ruined. Father O'Boyle had been unable to ascertain when interviewed by The Republican, how much insurance was carried, but it is his opinion that there is sufficient to cover the loss.

Two theories are advanced concerning the origin by persons familiar with the circumstances. One is that a sky rocket may have been fired through the window by children who were holding a belated Fourth of July celebration across the street; the other is that a live coal from the censer may have been left in the room at the close of the evening service. The former is strengthened by Mr. Moore's statement that the window was broken when he discovered the fire, while the latter is weakened by Father O'Boyle's firm belief that, in accordance with a habit of many years, he very carefully extinguished every spark of fire from the incense before leaving the building.

At all events, it might have been a whole lot worse than it was. Had it started an hour or two later there would have been little probability of discovery until too late to save the building. The fire boys are becoming so accustomed to Sunday fires that they will probably sit near the door when they go to church hereafter.

Reception at Albion

The members of the Albion fire department tendered a reception on July 2 to A. C. Bosserman, whose removal from Albion severs his connection with the Albion department. For the past year or so he has served in the capacity of secretary and has rendered most excellent satisfaction, giving the office special care and keeping everything in good shape. In recognition of his work in the department a social evening in his honor was arranged and a large company of the members turned out. The evening was devoted largely to good social time such as the firemen know how to have. The refreshments were termed "sanitary" and consisted of ice cream, cake and cookies with a few trimmings such as cigars and gum. Mr. Bosserman was presented with his exemption certificate.

Good Work at Superior

The Superior Journal of July 6 says:

What might have been the biggest fire Superior has ever had started in the rear of the M. & M. store. This morning about 2 o'clock the fire started just behind the ice chest in the meat department and had made considerable headway. What was not destroyed by fire in the grocery store was necessarily ruined by the chemicals and water. The blaze spread to the outside of the window adjoining the rear shed of the Superior Journal office, but not much damage was done. The fire also went to the rear of the room, burned through the window into the furniture room of the J. A. Mullet store. Here the biggest loss was sustained, as the furniture damaged was all high class stuff and is completely ruined. A fair estimate of the damage to Mr. Mullet's store is between \$6,000 and \$8,000, and the loss to the stock of the M. & M. store is about \$4,000. The grocery stock is almost a complete loss.

It began to look for a while as if the Journal would not be issued at the usual place today, but the heroic efforts of the Superior boys made it so that the Journal sustained no loss whatever. Were it so we could possibly do so we would express our appreciation in a more material way to those who fought the fire for us. We want to thank them one and all, in behalf of the Journal. Another place where the boys succeeded in doing valuable work was in even

getting back of the blaze which had already gained headway behind the sheet iron ceiling. How the fire was here checked is a miracle.

A connecting window between the Mullet store and the C. H. Hodges dry goods store was open and allowed considerable smoke to pass into the latter room, and but for the timely appearance of Mr. Hodges, who with considerable difficulty was able to make his way to the window and close it, much damage would have resulted there. As it was, the damage to Mr. Hodges' goods was only slight.

The blaze was first discovered by Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Walton, who occupy the building adjoining the M. & M. store on the east. They were awakened by the dense smoke, which had almost suffocated them, and on finding the burning was on fire lost no time in turning in an alarm, which no doubt was the means of saving the entire row of buildings, as in a very short time the fire would have been entirely beyond control. We all feel greatly indebted to them for their timely aid.

Early Morning Fire at Trenton

The Trenton Register of July 3 said:

About 3 o'clock Thursday morning the fire bell aroused many of our citizens from their peaceful slumbers to discover the law office of F. M. Flansburg on fire.

The discovery was made by Gladys Whitmarsh by the bright flames reflecting in her room at the hotel. She woke her father, who called central and rang the fire bell.

The fire lads responded promptly but the fire had gained such headway that the office furniture and fixtures were totally destroyed before the fire broke through the roof. The building, while still standing, is practically a total loss. The furniture, fixtures and law library are a and law total loss. Both the building and fixtures were covered by insurance, but as Mr. Flansburg was out of town at the time of the fire and has not returned at the time of putting this item in type, just before going to press, we are unable to give the amounts they were insured for.

This is the second time within a year that this building has been on fire, catching on the inside both times.

RIDGELL GIVES ADVICE TO FARMERS ON FIRE PREVENTION

A bulletin issued by W. S. Ridgell, state fire commissioner, gives the following fire prevention precautions especially for the farmer:

Beware of Fire from Threshing Machine Engines

Every year great fire losses are sustained by the farmers of the state of Nebraska through the channel of sparks or hot cinders from threshing machine engines. Do not permit an engine to operate on your farm unless it is equipped with modern appliances to prevent fires. Every engine should be equipped with a fire screen, spark arrester and at all times and under all circumstances it should be kept in place.

Many insurance companies will not adjust claims where owners of grain permit engineers to operate their engine, unless the engine is equipped with modern appliances to prevent fires. It therefore becomes the duty of every farmer to know for himself that the engine on his property is in good safe order. These engines are very dangerous and should be carefully watched and operated. The farmer who permits the operation of a threshing machine engine on his farm that is not properly equipped to prevent fires, cannot hold the insurance company liable. It would appear that the owner had knowledge of the danger and consented to same therefore he would be the only one to blame.

Great care should be exercised on the farm at all times against fire dangers and especially during the threshing season. Always see that the engine is removed a safe distance from buildings.

If a wood or coal burning traction machine engine is used, see that it has a first class spark arrester in good order and in its proper place. If an oil burning engine is used, do not allow the oil to be stored in the building. Keep it outside and use care in handling it. Be sure all chaff or waste is removed from around thresher and that no oily waste is left lying around.

Lightning Losses

Every year many thousands of cattle and horses are killed by getting close to wire fences during a thunder storm. If these fences have no ground connections animals furnish the path of least resistance between the fence and the ground. Fences should be grounded every few rods. Most dealers selling fence wire now handle an iron post which can be used every six or eight rods in place of the ordinary post, with practically no additional cost and this post will furnish the necessary ground.

Every home and every building that stands out boldly or alone needs protection from lightning and should be equipped with good lightning rods.

Precautions that Should be Taken

Fire pails are probably the oldest method of extinguishing fires. They are simple and always dependable if kept filled and in their proper places. They should be placed on shelves, hooks or floors and not used for any other purpose. They should be placed where fire is most likely to occur; and should be refilled once a week. If left where they are liable to freeze in winter, calcium chloride should be put in the water. It is better than salt and does not injure metal like salt does.

In the country it is always advisable to have a cask or barrel of water for fire extinguishing purposes. The barrel should be a good one and hold at least 50 gallons. Paint on it the words "For Fire Only" and do not use it for any other purpose. The barrel should be kept full of water and covered. Fire pails should be placed near it. Every home should have a ladder that will reach to the second story or roof. If all these precautions were heeded many fires could be extinguished in their incipency. Farm fires are nearly always total losses, but if all farmers would take all necessary precautions and equip their barns and homes with good fire extinguishers, pails, barrels and ladders they could put a fire out quickly if discovered in time.

Rubbish, Waste and Other Dangers

All material that in any way may invite a fire should be cleared away. The barn and other out buildings should be kept clean and in good condition. All old hay and straw should be removed before storing the new. New hay and straw should be thoroughly dry before being put in the mow. Barns and hay lofts should be well ventilated. No oily or greasy rags should be left lying around after machinery and wagons have been greased and cleaned up; oily and greasy waste breeds spontaneous combustion.

No Smoking Allowed in Barns or Out Buildings

Put up notices about your barns and other buildings prohibiting smoking in or near the barn, hay mows, etc., and see that they are heeded.

Never go into a barn with an open light.

Burn all old rubbish and waste, and do not allow it to accumulate on your premises. Never start a bonfire near buildings.

Don't keep gasoline engines or gasoline in barns. Put them in separate buildings made of galvanized iron, stone or brick and build them off away from any other building.

Watch electric wiring in house and barn and have it frequently inspected.

It would be well to build a cistern near barn with a good force pump and hose attached.

Remember that many a good prosperous farmer has been put down and out by a fire which a little good judgment and care could have prevented.

W. S. RIDGELL,
Chief Deputy.

House and Contents Destroyed

A fire on July 4th entirely destroyed the residence and contents belonging to T. C. Barkell of Harrisburg at his ranch on Big Horn creek, near that place. It is supposed that the fire started from a defective flue. The neighbors and friends of Mr. Barkell are assuming part of the loss to assist him.

New Secretary at Plainview

Clarence Nelson has been elected secretary of the Plainview Fire Department to succeed Clarence C. Hecht, who recently died.

Paid Departments Are Expensive

The per capita expense for the fire department in Omaha is \$3.65, the highest of 195 leading cities in the United States, according to a bulletin issued today by the department of commerce. The lowest was 45 cents in Newport, Ky.

The double shift system, two platoons of men employed, is responsible for much of the expense in the Omaha department, according to Chief Salter. Also, Omaha is one of the few large cities retaining the old-fashioned horse-drawn apparatus, and this keeps the cost of upkeep high, he says.

Other Statistics

Council Bluffs has the high record of expense for this department among the cities ranging in population from 30,000 to 50,000. The per capita there is \$2.50.

The lowest expense for the police department is 48 cents per capita, at Lincoln, Nebr.

The per capita payment for all general departments of 195 cities is \$17.34. For the police department the average is \$2.04. The fire department cost \$1.62, and education \$5.92. All departments show a steady increase in the last eleven years. The cost is proportionately smaller cities.—Omaha News.

Saved North Platte Hotel

The North Platte department saved the Union Pacific hotel from destruction by fire on July 7. A large can of grease caught fire in some way and filled the building with smoke. Little damage was done, although a large number of dishes were broken in the kitchen.

Like New Fire Hose Cart

The Bridgeport Fire Department

has recently received a new hose cart. They had it out on July 8, comparing it with the old cart. They are much pleased with it.

Change Name of Department

The Benson Hook and Ladder Fire Co. No. 1 will from now on be known as the Benson Fire Department, according to the new constitution and by-laws adopted at the meeting held last Monday evening, July 6. Chief Deputy Fire Commissioner W. S. Ridgell was on hand and acted in an advisory capacity for the department. Two new applications were received for membership. The new uniforms recently purchased by the city were given to the members. During the meeting a false alarm was sent in, which put the members on their metal, emptying the hall in less than thirty seconds. New committees were appointed as follows:

Auditing Committee—Geo. A. Hill chairman; C. C. Williams, Wm. Powers.

Committee on Fire Apparatus—Roy Culver, chairman; A. E. Mims, Harry Knudsen.

House Committee—A. J. McClung chairman; Jacob Gehrig, Jr., G. L. Waterbury.

A. E. Mims was appointed fire marshal, who will have full power of such office under the state laws.

New Whistle at Silver Creek

A new fire whistle has been installed at Silver Creek. Following are the signals in case of fire:

That part of Silver Creek south of the railroad will be known as ward No. 1, and when an alarm is turned in from that section, first a general alarm will be blown, followed by one short blast.

Ward No. 2 is north of the tracks and east of main street. The alarm for that section will be a general alarm followed by two short blasts.

Ward No. 3 is north of the tracks and west of main street and the alarm for that section will be a general alarm, followed by three short blasts.

For calling the firemen together on practice nights, a single short blast will be blown.

Wayne Department to Enforce Law

At a meeting of local firemen on Tuesday evening consideration was given to their duties in the matter of safeguarding the city against damage by fire. The local chief of the fire department is supposed to act as fire warden in the absence of the state officer. He is supposed to see that the law imposing restrictions in the interest of safety is enforced. The firemen have been investigating local conditions, and propose to change things creating unnecessary or illegal hazard. They complain that a few hydrants needed in case of fire are not in working order, and the same are expected to be duly repaired by order of the city council.—Wayne Herald.

Successful Smoker at Sidney

Another successful "smoker" was given by the Volunteer Fire Department of Sidney on the evening of July 4th. Three boxing exhibitions were on the program, the first between "Sheep" Tompsett and Glenn Moore, both of Sidney. They boxed three rounds and amused the crowd by their lack of knowledge of the boxing game. The second contest between Kid West of Peoria, Ill., and Young Boes of Denver held the crowd breathless by the cleverness and science displayed by both youngsters. It was one of the best boxing exhibitions shown in Sidney, both boys weighing 118 pounds.

The main event of the evening was between Fred Parks of Sidney and Young Stanley Ketchel of Denver, which lasted three rounds. Parks won with a hard right to the heart causing Ketchel to wilt and stay down for the count. It was by far one of the hardest battles Fred ever engaged in as Ketchel was a two-handed fighter and had a punch in either hand, which, if landed right was a lesep producer. Parks was on his guard and made Ketchel miss the swings to his jaw by clever ducking. Parks did considerable damage to Ketchel in in-fighting causing him to hang on rather than let go and get hit. Ketchel started out in the first round to rush Parks off his feet, but Fred soon stopped his rushes with his left, which always landed on Ketchel's face. Ketchel soon found out that he was up against a lad better than himself and tried to claim a foul to save himself from a knock-out. Fred deserves credit for winning as the Denver lad has had more experience and more battles. By winning this contest it puts Fred in a class with the best of them in the middleweight division. He showed clearly that he could stand the strain of a rough fighter like Ketchel. All ways on the lookout and fighting a careful fight, he was never in danger, outpointing his opponent in every round. Quite an ovation was given Parks after the contest. The opera house was crowded to the doors, the receipts being over \$500, sixty per cent of which went to the fire department.—Sidney Telegraph.

FIRE PREVENTION IMPORTANT

By W. S. Ridgell

(Chief State Deputy Fire Commissioner)

The duties of the fire commissioner's office might be classed in four specific divisions:

First, the actual work of fire prevention.

Second, the actual work of fire protection.

Third, the educational work to further the cause of fire prevention and fire protection.

Fourth, the running down of the crime of arson.

By far the most important work is the educational—the teaching of the science and principles of fire prevention. We need fire protection only to fight fires. Prevent the fires and we will have none to fight. Of course, to a certain extent, we will always need fire protection, for accidental and unavoidable fires will occur. But the idea of spending \$150,000,000 a year to fight fires and \$100,000 a year to prevent fires is

certainly, to say the least, inconsistent. Yet that is what this country is doing.

In the educational work we never let an opportunity pass when certain facts and figures can be made public. Following that course we constantly remind the citizens of this state of the enormous fire waste of the country, in excess of \$250,000,000 a year, and we remind them of the most uncomplimentary comparison between the fire loss per capita in this country and certain foreign countries, for the figures show that in a number of large foreign countries the per capita fire loss varies from only 30 to 50 cents per annum, while in our country it rises to an amount in excess of \$2.50.

We appreciate that this is an old, old story; that the people have heard it many, many times before, and that perhaps they think it is not necessary to make reference to it again, but the comparison is so marked and the figures are so enormous that we must not let pass a single opportunity to bring ourselves to a realization of this fire waste.

Teach Children the Danger of Fire

Every state in the union is recognizing that this is the only thorough way to get the fire prevention movement started successfully.

This important subject is now merely in its incipency. The time is at hand when school debates dealing with the subject of fire waste will be most popular. Stop and think for a moment what the effect will be if we send out these educated young men and women, who will be the leaders of thought in their communities, imbued with the knowledge of what the fire waste is in this country; and not let them go out and acquire prejudiced misinformation during half their lives, and then go to them when they are grown men and women and try to combat these preconceived notions and habits. We will now send them out from their schools and colleges to be influences in their communities for the solution of this great problem of fire waste of the nation and this study in our schools today is the very finest opportunity for publicity and the propagation of our work that we can conceive.

We cannot personally, with our limited force of inspectors, reach every town in the state, but we can and do, through the newspapers, continually agitate and dwell upon this subject of fire prevention. The newspapers are most willing to cooperate and the widespread publicity given to our bulletins cannot help but do good.

What this department would like would be to have every village and city in the state organize a fire prevention society. If the representative men of each town would organize a club, meet every month, and discuss ways and means of reducing the fire losses of their community, great results would be accomplished in a short time. They could act as missionaries and take the information they receive to the property owners and the officials of their town and thereby accomplish actual results in that they will create a public spirit that will always be at the command of any fire prevention movement, local or national. The newspapers of the town will treat these meetings exactly as other news and give them due publicity. If the people of every community could read something every week dealing with the great problem of fire waste they would soon become important factors in the cause of fire prevention.

When we can get the citizens of every community of this great broad country working together, intelligently working, with a knowledge of conditions and enthusiastic to inspire others with their knowledge, we will have an army working in this cause such as has never been commanded before in any effort toward civic improvement.

Last Year's Loss

Fire destroyed in Nebraska last year more than \$2,000,000 worth of property. There were actually reported to our office during the year 1913 fire losses amounting to \$1,715,676.10. This does not include the country or farm losses, and perhaps not all city or village losses, so you can readily see that the real fire loss in Nebraska last year will easily reach more than \$2,000,000. \$166,666.66 2-3 worth of property destroyed by fire every month of the year, \$5,486 every day, \$228 every hour of the day and night is certainly not a record to be proud of, but indeed a condition to be alarmed at. \$2,000,000 of Nebraska's wealth wiped out of existence every year is appalling. It handicaps her vigor, her health, her expansion. What an asset it would make if she could retain, preserve this \$2,000,000 worth of wealth intact! Nebraska can retain at least 70 per cent of it if her citizens will co-operate, and use ordinary precautions and reasonable care against all fire dangers.

State of Ohio, City of Toledo, ss.

Lucas County.

Frank J. Cheney makes oath that he is senior partner of the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1886.

(SEAL) A. W. GLEASON,

Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for testimonials, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, O. Sold by all Druggists, 75c.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

The fact is, the four magazines we sell with The Herald for 15c extra, represents the biggest reading value ever offered the public. Have you sent us your order? If not, send it or phone us today.

QUIT MEAT IF YOUR KIDNEYS ACT BADLY

Take tablespoonful of Salts if Back hurts or Bladder bothers—Drink lots of water.

We are a nation of meat eaters and our blood is filled with uric acid, says a well-known authority, who warns us to be constantly on guard against kidney trouble.

The kidneys do their utmost to free the blood of this irritating acid, but become weak from the overwork; they get sluggish; the eliminative tissues clog and thus the waste is retained in the blood to poison the entire system.

When your kidneys ache and feel like lumps of lead, and you have stinging pains in the back or the urine is cloudy, full of sediment, or the bladder is irritable, obliging you to seek relief during the night; when you have severe headaches, nervous and dizzy spells, sleeplessness, acid stomach or rheumatism in bad weather, get from your pharmacist about four ounces of Jad Salts; take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast each morning and in a few days your kidneys will act fine. This famous salt is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and has been used for generations to flush and stimulate clogged kidneys, to neutralize the acids in urine so it is no longer a source of irritation, thus ending urinary and bladder disorders.

Jad Salts is inexpensive and cannot injure; makes a delightful effervescent lithia-water drink, and nobody can make a mistake by taking a little occasionally to keep the kidneys clean and active.

Hurry! Hurry!



and get your colts and vicious horses booked for breaking. My prices are right. Work guaranteed. References if desired.

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Keep her locks youthful, dark, glossy and thick with common grade Sage and Sulphur.

When you darken your hair with Sage Tea and Sulphur, no one can tell, because it's done so naturally, so evenly. Preparing this mixture, though, at home is messy and troublesome. For 50 cents you can buy at any drug store the ready-to-use tonic called "Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur Hair Remedy." You just dampen a sponge or soft brush with it; and draw this through your hair, taking one small strand at a time. By morning all gray hair disappears, and, after another application or two, your hair becomes beautifully darkened, glossy and luxuriant. You will also discover dandruff is gone and hair has stopped falling. Gray, faded hair, though no disgrace, is a sign of old age, and as we all desire a youthful and attractive appearance, get busy at once with Wyeth's Sage and Sulphur and look years younger.

If you haven't already subscribed to our club of four magazines do it now. You will enjoy reading these splendid magazines. We will sell you the four magazines with The Herald all one year for only 15c extra.